

on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

PROMOTING DIGITAL PRIVACY TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 847) to support research on privacy enhancing technologies and promote responsible data use, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 847

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Promoting Digital Privacy Technologies Act".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY.

In this Act, the term "privacy enhancing technology"—

(1) means any software or hardware solution, technical process, or other technological means of mitigating individuals' privacy risks arising from data processing by enhancing predictability, manageability, disassociability, and confidentiality; and

(2) may include—

(A) cryptographic techniques for facilitating computation or analysis on data while mitigating privacy risks;

(B) techniques for publicly sharing data without enabling inferences to be made about specific individuals;

(C) techniques for giving individuals' control over the dissemination, sharing, and use of their data;

(D) techniques for generating synthetic data; and

(E) any other technology or approach that reduces the risk of re-identification, including when combined with other information.

SEC. 3. NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION SUPPORT OF RESEARCH ON PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY.

The Director of the National Science Foundation, in consultation with other relevant Federal agencies (as determined by the Director), shall support merit-reviewed and competitively awarded research on privacy enhancing technologies, which may include—

(1) fundamental research on technologies for de-identification, pseudonymization, anonymization, or obfuscation to mitigate individuals' privacy risks in data sets while maintaining fairness, accuracy, and efficiency;

(2) fundamental research on algorithms and other similar mathematical tools used to protect individual privacy when collecting, storing, sharing, analyzing, or aggregating data;

(3) fundamental research on technologies that promote data minimization in data collection, sharing, and analytics that takes into account the trade-offs between the data minimization goals and the informational goals of data collection;

(4) research awards on privacy enhancing technologies coordinated with other relevant Federal agencies and programs;

(5) supporting education and workforce training research and development activities, including re-training and upskilling of the existing workforce, to grow the number of privacy enhancing technology researchers and practitioners;

(6) multidisciplinary socio-technical research that fosters broader understanding of privacy preferences, requirements, and human behavior to inform the design and adoption of effective privacy solutions;

(7) development of freely available privacy enhancing technology software libraries, platforms, and applications; and

(8) fundamental research on techniques that may undermine the protections provided by privacy enhancing technologies, the limitations of the protections provided by privacy enhancing technologies, and the trade-offs between privacy and utility required for their deployment.

SEC. 4. INTEGRATION INTO THE COMPUTER AND NETWORK SECURITY PROGRAM.

Subparagraph (D) of section 4(a)(1) of the Cyber Security Research and Development Act (15 U.S.C. 7403(a)(1)(D)) is amended to read as follows:

"(D) privacy and confidentiality, including privacy enhancing technologies;"

SEC. 5. COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS.

(a) *IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, acting through the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall coordinate with the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the Federal Trade Commission, and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, to accelerate the development, deployment, and adoption of privacy enhancing technologies.*

(b) *OUTREACH.—The Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall conduct outreach to—*

(1) receive input from private, public, and academic stakeholders on the development of privacy enhancing technologies; and

(2) facilitate and support ongoing public and private sector engagement to inform the development and dissemination of voluntary, consensus-based technical standards, guidelines, methodologies, procedures, and processes to cost-effectively increase the integration of privacy enhancing technologies in data collection, sharing, and analytics performed by the public and private sectors.

SEC. 6. REPORT ON PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, acting through the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Program, shall, in coordination with the Director of the National Science Foundation, the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, a report containing—

(1) the progress of research on privacy enhancing technologies;

(2) the progress of the development of voluntary resources described under section 5(b)(2); and

(3) any policy recommendations that could facilitate and improve communication and coordination between the private sector and relevant Federal agencies for the implementation and adoption of privacy enhancing technologies.

SEC. 7. PROTECTING PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION.

Any personal identifying information collected or stored through the activities authorized in this Act shall be done in accordance with section 690 of title 45, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to the protection of human subjects), or any successor regulation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from

Michigan (Ms. STEVENS) and the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 847, the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 847, the Promoting Digital Privacy Technologies Act.

The 21st century has ushered in the era of hyper-internet utilization, the gig economy of nearly everything.

Americans are online. Practically any digital action that internet users take—from social media to shopping online to browsing news or using email—creates data that is stored by companies or organizations. More and more data about each of us is being generated faster and faster each day. In fact, 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are generated nearly every day. Ninety percent of the world's data was created in just the last 2 years alone.

Companies can use, share, or sell data they collect since most of the data economy is invisible—Americans are not able to see this constant flow of their information, but the more modern digital economy is fueled by personal data.

Unfortunately, there are few processes that can enable the productive use of personal data while also protecting the privacy and confidentiality of the people to whom that data is linked.

A 2019 survey by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration found that 73 percent of U.S. households have significant concerns about online privacy and security risks. I hear it from my own constituents all throughout Oakland County, Michigan.

There are tremendous opportunities to capture the benefits of data, including for safer roads, improved public health, and better educational outcomes. However, in any use of personal data, we have the ability and the necessity to ensure privacy and confidentiality. Form and function, my friends. One key way to achieve that is through the development of the privacy-enhancing technologies, or PETs.

PETs are a broad range of technologies that allow organizations to collect, share, and use data while mitigating the privacy risks that arise from those activities. The goal is to make these systems that use personal information private by default, opening up those data to a wide range of researchers who would otherwise not have access.

These technologies have the potential to enable broader use of Federal data sets, as privacy risks are often the greatest barrier to open government data efforts. We recognize the untapped potential and opportunity for the United States of America to lead here. The technology itself for PETs is still immature and not necessarily ready for widespread use.

My bill, H.R. 847, the Promoting Digital Privacy Technologies Act, supports research, workforce development, standard setting, and government coordination for PETs.

H.R. 847 directs the National Science Foundation to conduct fundamental privacy research that can help improve these technologies, assess their limitations, and broaden their applicability. This bill also directs the National Science Foundation to support workforce development activities in order to help address the growing shortage of privacy professionals across the United States of America.

H.R. 847 also supports activities at the National Institute of Standards and Technology to facilitate the development of standards and best practices for integration of PETs in the public and private sectors. This is the best of government in action, my friends.

Finally, H.R. 847 directs the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy to coordinate Federal activities to accelerate the development of PETs across government.

Congress has been debating different proposals for privacy legislation, as we know, for many, many years. I remain hopeful and optimistic that we will get something done. In the meantime, the Promoting Digital Privacy Technologies Act will help ensure that we have the necessary tools to fully implement privacy legislation without stifling innovation. It is high time that we research ways in which privacy-enhancing technologies can be utilized to protect Americans' most sensitive and personal data.

□ 1430

I also thank my colleagues—this has been a bipartisan effort—Congressman ANTHONY GONZALEZ, as well as Senator CATHERINE CORTEZ MASTO and Senator DEB FISCHER, for working with me to develop this legislation last year. I also thank our stakeholders whose feedback helped strengthen this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 847, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 847, the Promoting Digital Privacy Technologies Act. This legislation supports research activities to advance innovative technologies to safeguard individuals' privacy.

As Americans have moved more and more of their lives online, especially during the pandemic, it has also resulted in more digital consumer data

and personal information being generated than ever before.

This personal information has long been a target for cybercriminals, and it has only worsened over the pandemic. According to the Federal Trade Commission, identify theft increased by almost 3,000 percent over the past year. This problem is exacerbated by the failure of some companies to properly safeguard consumer data.

This data is a valuable asset. In 2017 "The Economist" claimed data is now the world's most valuable resource. When safely utilized, it can do a great deal to spur our economy and support innovations like artificial intelligence and machine learning. Our task is to ensure this resource doesn't fall into the hands of bad actors, putting Americans' private information at risk.

Privacy Enhancing Technologies, PETs, may be part of the solution. PETs utilize cryptography and statistics to minimize the amount of personally identifiable information while ensuring the data sets are still usable. However, more research is needed to understand PETs' applicability and to encourage further development and adoption.

This bill requires the National Science Foundation to support fundamental research into PETs, the mathematics that is the foundation of PETs, and additional technologies that promote data minimization principles. The legislation also directs NIST to work with stakeholders to develop voluntary consensus standards for incorporating these technologies into Federal and commercial applications.

I thank Chairwoman STEVENS and Representative GONZALEZ for leading this very important legislation. I encourage my colleagues to support this bill.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, while the data revolution offers an opportunity to solve many of the world's grand challenges, we must also ensure these innovations don't put Americans' private information at risk. By supporting further research on privacy-enhancing technologies through this legislation, we are taking important steps to strengthen consumer privacy while enabling the use of consumer data.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to vote "yes" on this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleague in encouraging Members of this legislative body to support H.R. 847. I recognize that privacy-enhancing technologies are an innovation opportunity for the United States of America. The role that the National Institute of Standards and Technology will play with this legislation will convene industry stakeholders and nonprofit groups to a standard set, which is certainly welcome by many, and will also ensure us the ability to continue to succeed and compete in years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Ms. STEVENS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 847, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

NOAA WEATHER RADIO MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2021

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5324) to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5324

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "NOAA Weather Radio Modernization Act of 2021" or "NWR Modernization Act of 2021".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

(a) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(b) NOAA WEATHER RADIO.—The term "NOAA Weather Radio" means the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards network.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The NOAA Weather Radio is a nationwide network of transmitters that are critical to protecting life and property by broadcasting weather and other hazard alerts.

(2) NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts currently reach 95 percent of the United States population.

(3) NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts originate from all National Weather Service Offices, but are only available via a receiver located in sufficient proximity to a radio transmitting tower.

(4) There are limited options to obtain NOAA Weather Radio broadcasts via the Internet or mobile device application, which are provided by volunteer mechanisms obtaining the audio feed in an ad hoc manner.

(5) NOAA Weather Radio should provide equal access and availability to unimpeded broadcasts of weather and non-weather hazards to every person located within the United States, its territories, and tribal lands.

SEC. 4. UPGRADING EXISTING SYSTEMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable, expand coverage of the NOAA Weather Radio and ensure its reliability. In doing so, the Administrator shall—

(1) maintain support for existing systems serving areas not covered by or having poor quality cellular service;